

From: [L.A. Business Journal](#)
To: [Kent Smith](#)
Subject: Morning Report: Council Rethinking Uber at the Airport | Unpermitted Park Vending Ban Back
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Council Rethinking Uber at the Airport

Six council members, citing fairness and safety concerns, are now saying "not so fast" to a decision earlier this month by the Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners to allow ridesharing companies like Uber and Lyft to pick up riders at LAX, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports. The council members want to closely examine the airport's news rules, and if the motion passes next week, it could override the pro-Uber policy.

Posted: 7/30/2015

Unpermitted Park Vending Ban Back

The ban on vending at parks and beaches without a permit was reinstated by the Los Angeles City Council on Wednesday, meaning sellers could face fines and possibly misdemeanor charges, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports. Some complain the ban targets mom-and-pop vendors and could make it difficult for immigrants facing such charges to become citizens.

Posted: 7/30/2015

Sluggish Economy

Economic growth is still slow going with the gross domestic product growing just 2.3 percent in the second quarter, according to the Commerce Department, the [Wall Street Journal](#) reports this morning. The expected growth rate was 2.7 percent – itself modest. Some economists expect growth to pick up in the second half of the year. Then again, they've been predicting that for years.

Posted: 7/30/2015

Greenspan: Entitlement Spending at 'Extremely Dangerous' Level

Former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan warns an increase in government spending on social benefits is at "extremely dangerous" levels for the economy, [CNBC](#) reports. Such spending was 19.2 percent of the gross domestic product last year, up from 15.5 percent in 2005, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Posted: 7/30/2015

Feinstein's New Drought-Relief Bill

In an effort to get Congress to pass legislation to help California, Sen. Dianne Feinstein is proposing a drought-relief bill which would include using \$1.3 billion over the next decade for storage, desalination and other projects, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports. Still, questions remain,



including whether environmentalists will support it, and if a compromise can be reached with a Republican-backed bill that has been approved by the House.

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[Oil Slick Spotted in Santa Barbara](#)

Just when things were looking up in Santa Barbara, now a nearly 4-mile long oil slick is back, sparking new concerns in the area, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports. Officials say it could be natural seepage or possibly a remnant of last May's oil spill caused by a ruptured pipeline which spilled more than 21,000 gallons of crude into the ocean, but they're awaiting test results to find out for sure.

Posted: 7/30/2015

[Export-Import Bank Fails to Get Revived](#)

Those hoping for the reopening of the Export-Import Bank were given bad news Wednesday when the House approved a highway funding bill that excluded a reauthorization of the bank's charter, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports. The Senate is expected to follow the footsteps of the House. Supporters argue the Ex-Im bank helps companies sell their products abroad. Opponents argue the bank mainly helps big businesses, which donate to politicians to keep the bank's spigot open for them.

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[Steps Closer to Rate Hike](#)

Although it didn't happen this week, the time could soon be approaching when Federal Reserve policymakers raise the federal funds rate for the first time since 2006 since they seem to be indicating the economy is getting better, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports.

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[A New Beginning](#)

In anticipation of next year's opening of the Expo Line, a Metro train drove into the downtown Santa Monica terminal this week, [LAist](#) reports. It marked the first time in more than 60 years that a passenger train has reached downtown Santa Monica.

Posted: 7/30/2015

[Stocks Down](#)

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 75 points in early trading Thursday to 17,676. The S&P 500 was down nine points to 2,100. The Nasdaq was down 26 points to 5,086. The LABJ Stock Index was down one point to 242.

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